

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-8 and 10-28 are pending in a present application. Claims 1, 4-6, 8, 10 and 14-23 have been amended and claim 9 has been canceled by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, claims 21 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Haskell et al; claims 1-8 and 10-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Chiang et al; claims 22-24 and 26-28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Haskell et al in view of Chiang et al; and claim 9 was indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter. In light of this indication, claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter recited in claim 9. Further, independent claims 10 and 21 have also been amended to include similar features to that recited in claim 9. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted independent claims 1, 10 and 21 and each of the claims depending therefrom are allowable and that the applied art also does not teach or suggest a combination of the claimed features. Further, some of the pending claims have been amended to correct minor cosmetic informalities.

Serial No. 09/764,311
Amdt. dated August 4, 2004
Reply to Office Action of June 4, 2004

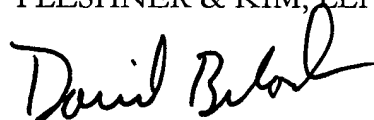
Docket No. P-182

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney, David A. Bilodeau, at the telephone number listed below. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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